

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Donald Schomer et al. § Group Art Unit:
§
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned §
§ Confirmation No.:
Filed: Concurrently Herewith §
§ Atty. Docket No.: 2329-00155
For: Spinal Ligament Modification Devices §

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 26, 2006

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware.

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Donald Schomer
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2329-00155
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
AA	US-3,732,858		05-15-1973	Banko	
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Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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Sheet	2	of	2	First Named Inventor	Donald Schomer
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	2329-00155

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
CF	WO 00/45868		08-10-2000	The Regents of the University of CA		
CG	WO 01/08571		02-08-2001	Disc-O-Tech Medical Technologies LTD		
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CI	WO 97/34536		09-25-1997	Roehm		

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate) title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issued number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	CJ	PCT International Search Report for International Application No PCT/US05/27216 dated November 29, 2005 (2 p)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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